



SB 560: Helping Animals & Communities

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Michigan Humane Society



Michigan Humane Society

- Oldest and largest nonprofit humane organization in state
- Companion animal mission (pets)
- Independent, unaffiliated with any other local, state or national organization
- 3 shelters serve Detroit metro area
- Accepted 32,404 animals in 2012
- Investigate cruelty entire state



SB 560: Three Components

- Bring large-scale breeders under the same regulation that already applies to pet shops and animal shelters
- Clear guidance for shelters on hold times for stray pets
- Updates pet health certificates, etc.



Large-scale Breeding Kennels

- Ensure all dogs in commercial settings receive adequate care
- Animal shelters and pet stores already regulated by MDARD
- Commercial breeders not currently regulated



Purebred Chihuahuas of Michigan Humane Society

Why Breeder Regulation?

- Michigan consumers want to know breeding dogs raised humanely
- Large numbers of dogs in long-term confinement
- Potential for conditions to decline unseen and unknown
- Waiting until prosecutable as cruelty causes undue animal suffering and huge community expense



Michigan Cases: Missaukee



Michigan Cases: Missaukee



Photo Credit: ASPCA

- May 2013
- 169 dogs housed outdoors
- Puppies sold online to the public
- No state oversight
- Consumers never saw the dogs' living conditions

Michigan Cases: Missaukee



Photo Credit: ASPCA

Michigan Cases: Missaukee



Photo Credit: ASPCA

- Missaukee County has no animal control
- Local humane society unprepared for case of this size
- Michigan Humane Society, ASPCA, Roscommon County Animal Control worked together

Michigan Cases: Missaukee



Photo Credit: ASPCA

- Unacceptable conditions for dogs in commercial settings: animal shelter, pet store, OR breeder
- SB 560 could have prevented this case
- It would have required this dog's breeder to register with MDARD and comply with existing animal care standards

Michigan Cases: Allegan



Photo Credit: Fotos for Fidos

- April 2012
- 380+ purebred Shih Tzu and Pomeranian dogs and puppies seized from large-scale breeder
- Many were sick
- Crammed into small cages in rural home

Michigan Cases: Allegan



Photo Credit: Fotos for Fidos

- Animals had lived in filth with coats matted with feces, rotted teeth & jaws, for years
- All dogs were eventually adopted after extensive medical cost and behavioral care

Michigan Cases: Allegan



Photo Credit: Fotos for Fidos

- Allegan animal shelter overwhelmed
- WishBone Pet Rescue coordinated the care of 380+ dogs
- Assistance from community, local and national animal groups was required

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Michigan Cases: Allegan



Photo Credit: Fotos for Fidos

- Breeders convicted of animal cruelty and sentenced to jail
- Animal suffering and community expense could have been avoided

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2010 to 2013

OUTREACH TO STAKEHOLDERS

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2010 MHS Breeder Survey



- What do Michigan's breeders think?
- 129 Michigan breeders and fanciers responded to survey
- Gave input on care guidelines, definition of large-scale breeder

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Reaching Other Stakeholders

- Michigan Veterinary Medical Association
- United Kennel Club
- Michigan United Conservation Clubs
- Local kennel clubs, animal shelters, rescue groups, dog owners
- MDARD
- Michigan Association of Animal Control Officers
- Animal Law Section of the State Bar
- Puppy Mill Awareness of SE MI
- National humane organizations

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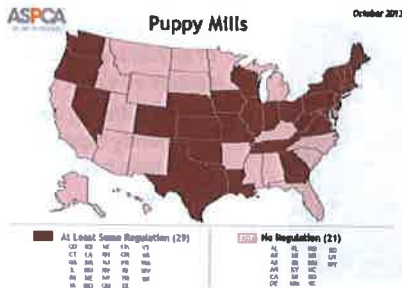
Points of Consensus:

- Oppose animal cruelty
- Recognize role of breeders
- Value adequate care and housing for breeding dogs
- Regulation should focus on large-scale, not hobby breeders
- Prevent Michigan from becoming a "puppy mill" state



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Breeder Regulation:



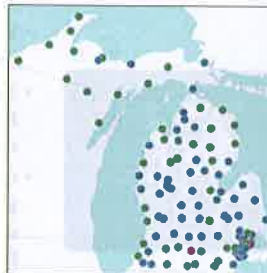
Breeder Registration is FAIR

- Only breeders with MORE than 15 adult breeding females
- Hobby breeders clearly fall below this level
- Follow care guidelines already in place for shelters and pet shops
- Cap size of facilities at 50 breeding females



Stray Pets Holding by Shelters

- 193 registered shelters in Michigan
- 113 house strays (59%)
- Many private shelters are housing strays
- MHS took in 11,619 stray pets last year
- MHS took in more Detroit strays than City of Detroit Animal Control last year



Map of shelters housing strays: www.mpaw.org

Holding Time Unclear

- Current law has insufficient guidance on holding times for stray pets
- Only reference to hold times is in animal research law that deals with transfer to Class B Dealers (PA 287.388)



Humane Society of Livingston County, Howell

Goals of SB 560

- Define in statute what holding time should be
- Take into account current science
- Produce positive impact on animal health and lives saved in shelters



Lifeline for Pound Buddies, Muskegon

Process

- MDARD working group to resolve issue
- Included municipal and non-profit shelters, shelter veterinarians, animal control, rescue groups, MDARD
- Recommendations based on science, best practices



Dr. Boer, Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development

Solutions for Problems

- Clear definition of "day":
24 hours assuming
available for reclaim
- Seven day hold for ALL
animals with TRACEABLE
identification: tags,
microchips
- Mandatory microchip
scanning, readers are
now universal
- Four day hold for stray
dogs without ID
- Two day hold for stray
cats without ID



Benzie County Animal Shelter, Beulah

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Cats are Different than Dogs

- Michigan shelters
now holding more
cats than dogs
- 105,110 cats versus
92,934 dogs in 2011
- 2.8% reclaim rate for
lost cats in Michigan
- Cats seldom have ID
and owners not
looking



Humane Animal Treatment Society, Mt. Pleasant

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Population Health

- Cats in shelters
undergo significant
stress
- Many harbor
contagious diseases
- Longer hold times =
more sickness
- Current research
shows shorter hold
times saves more
cats in shelters



Shelter cats with upper respiratory infections.

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SB560: Other Items

- Pet health certificate
- Import requirement
for cats and dogs
- Transfer of
ownership after
holding periods
- Recordkeeping in
accordance with
statutes



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Benzie County
Grand Haven
Bentley County
Aronson County
Livingston County
Jackson County
Ontonagon County
Crawford County

YES TO OCAP

SB 560: Helping Animals, Shelters, Communities in Michigan

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SB 560: Large-scale Dog Breeders & Stray Pets in Shelters

Senate Bill 560, sponsored by Senator Steve Bieda, seeks to amend Public Act 287 of 1969 by requiring large-scale commercial dog breeders (those with more than 15 adult female breeding dogs) to register with the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) and follow existing care guidelines to help ensure the humane treatment and health of the dogs and puppies in their facilities. Currently, P.A. 287 only applies to pet shops and animal shelters. SB 560 would apply these same care standards to large-scale commercial dog breeders.

The bill also clarifies stray animal holding periods for animal shelters. Pets *with* traceable identification would be held for at least 7 days while owners are contacted. Stray dogs *without* identification would be held for 4 days, and stray cats *without* identification for 2 days. The shorter holding period for cats will reduce the outbreak of infectious disease, a huge problem with cats in shelters nationwide. Because stray cats are reclaimed at a much lower rate (2%) than dogs (19%) in Michigan, getting cats quickly into the adoption stream before they can become ill has the potential to save thousands of cats.

Large-scale commercial dog breeders:

- Defines large-scale commercial dog breeding kennels as facilities housing more than 15 intact female adult dogs for breeding and clearly exempts hobby-level breeders with fewer dogs.
- Requires large-scale breeders to register with MDARD, and follow the same animal care standards that shelters and pet shops, which are already registered, are required to follow.
- Limits the size of a large-scale commercial dog breeding kennel to no more than 50 adult female breeding dogs at one facility.
- Prohibits large-scale dog breeders from selling puppies less than 8 weeks of age; and requires standard vaccinations, worming and health certificates for all dogs sold. Current law already applies this standard to pet shops.
- Adds large-scale commercial dog breeders to shelters and pet stores in entities reporting annual statistics and keeping daily records.
- Over the past decade, our neighboring states have passed laws regulating dog breeders. Because Michigan is one of only 21 states that does not regulate them, we could become a magnet for large-scale breeders relocating here to avoid regulations other states have recently adopted.

Holding of stray pets in registered animal shelters:

- Requires that shelters hold any stray animal with traceable identification (tag, microchip, etc.) for at least 7 days while using all reasonable means to contact the animal's owner.
- Requires that dogs without traceable identification be held for at least 4 days and cats for at least 2 days so that owners can reclaim them. Current law provides no holding time for cats.
- Defines holding days to include any day or part of a day the animal is held and available for owners to come and reclaim their animal, including weekends. Current law is vague in this area and this language provides clear guidance to animal shelters.
- Creates a clear transfer of ownership of stray animals who are not reclaimed to the animal shelter at the end of the holding period.

Other Components:

- Updates vaccination requirements for dogs and cats in shelters, pet stores, and applies this same standard to large-scale breeders to match current standard veterinary recommendations
- Requires that shelters, pet stores, and large-scale breeders who euthanize animals do so in accordance with state law and current American Veterinary Medical Association guidelines
- Ensures that imported puppies and kittens less than 8 weeks old remain with the mother animals
- Requires that dogs and cats imported into Michigan by large-scale breeders be accompanied with interstate health certificates. Current law already requires this of both pet shops and shelters.

SB 560: Summary of Proactive Outreach by Michigan Humane Society

- **Michigan Veterinary Medical Association**
 - MHS serves on MVMA's legislative committee at which these bills have been discussed over past three years
 - First met with ED and committee chair in early 2010
- **Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development**
 - Met with representatives of MDARD to get feedback on language
 - Made revisions to enforcement and inspection language
 - Bills subject of MDARD working group
 - Added 8 week age limit on puppy sales, pet health certificate, Parvo vaccination, holding times
- **Michigan Association of Animal Control Officers**
 - Presentation to Board of Directors regarding bills
- **Michigan United Conservation Clubs** (represents several hunting dog clubs)
 - Met with representatives of MUCC to get feedback on language
 - Increased lower limit to 15 adult breeding females
- **Ingham County Kennel Club** (hobby breeders in the Lansing area)
 - Presentation to club members regarding bills in 2010
- **United Kennel Club** (national dog club registry based in Kalamazoo)
 - Met with ED, lobbyist, and dog club representatives in 2010
- **Independent Michigan dog breeders**
 - Surveyed 129 dog breeders statewide in 2010 for feedback
- **Animal Law Section of the State Bar**
 - Participated in conference call with animal law members
- **Puppy Mill Awareness Meet-up statewide activist group**
 - Met with head of group to discuss bills
- **Registered Michigan Animal Shelters**
 - Held statewide conference call in October 2013
- **National Humane Groups**
 - Conference calls with ASPCA and Humane Society of United States

